

## **REMARKS**

By this preliminary amendment, Applicant wishes to correct a number of clerical errors in the application. A description of these amendments is provided below.

### ***Abstract***

Applicant has amended the abstract to correct a typographical error. In particular, a comma was changed to a period after the second occurrence of the word “preamble” in the third line.

### ***Specification***

Applicant has amended paragraphs 16, 77, 148, 194, 204, 321, 328, 356-358, 374, 377, 380, 433, 436, 438, 440, 442, 443, 445, and 453 to correct a number of clerical errors. In particular, a number of punctuation errors, spelling errors, and numbering errors have been corrected.

Applicant has added new paragraphs 102A and 102B to provide a description of Figs. 13 and 14 in the Brief Description of the Drawings. Support for these new paragraphs can be found in paragraphs 187 and 191.

No new matter has been added with any of these amendments.

### ***Drawings***

By a Notice of Proposed Drawing Change filed concurrently with this preliminary amendment, Applicant has amended Figs. 21A and 21B to correct a couple of clerical errors. In particular, Applicant has amended Fig. 21A to add the label 2100a, and has amended Fig. 21B to correct the label 2975 to read “2175.”

No new matter has been added with any of these amendments.

### *Claims*

Applicant has amended claims 3, 8, and 11. In particular, Applicant has amended claim 3 to recite that “the first signal parameters are met if the signal strength is above a first threshold,” and that “the second signal parameters are met if the signal strength is below a second threshold.” Applicant has amended claim 8 to recite that “the first signal parameters are met if a number of requested packet retransmissions per unit time in the wireless network device is above a first threshold but not above a second threshold,” and that “the second signal parameters are met if the number of requested packet retransmissions per unit time in the wireless network device is above both the first and second thresholds.” Applicant has amended claim 11 to recite that “the first signal parameters are met if the signal strength is above a first threshold but not above a second threshold,” and that “the second signal parameters are met if the signal strength is above both the first and second thresholds.”

Support for these amendments can be found, for example, in paragraphs 447-454.

No new matter has been added with any of these amendments.

***Conclusion***

Based on the above amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider this preliminary amendment, enter the listed claim amendments, consider and examine this application, and issue a Notice of Allowance allowing pending claims 1-16.

Although it is not anticipated that any additional fees are due or payable, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees that may be required to Deposit Account No. **50-1147**.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Brian C. Altmiller", is written over a horizontal line.

Brian C. Altmiller  
Reg. No. 37,271

Date: January 23, 2004

Posz & Bethards, PLC  
11250 Roger Bacon Drive  
Suite 10  
Reston, VA 20190  
Phone (703) 707-9110  
Fax (703) 707-9112  
Customer No. 23400